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Message Text

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63
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 HUD-02 COME-00 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 SS-20 NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00

DRC-01 /172 W
---------- 087809
R 261530Z OCT 73
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2256
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 5684

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: ECOSOC - COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

REF: A. STATE 210143; B. STATE 209827

1. EIGHTH SESSION OF COMMITTEE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING (HBP) WAS LACKLUSTRE MEETING UNTIL WORK PROGRAM WAS DEBATED. DEVELOPING COUNTRY ATTENDANCE WAS LOW AND PARTICIPATION LACKING. OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRESENT, ONLY INDIA, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO AND UGANDA SPOKE ON ALL AGENDA ITEMS AND MADE MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS.

2. THE FUTURE OF THE CENTER IN LIGHT OF THE NEW AND VIGOROUS ROLE OF UNEP IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS WAS OF CONCERN TO MANY DELS. THE PROGRAM BUDGETING SYSTEM, WHICH THE COMMITTEE DID NOT COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND, SERVED TO INTENSIFY ANXIETIES AND FRUSTRATIONS ABOUT THE CENTER AND THE EXPERT ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE.

3. THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED FOUR RES FOR ECOSOC ADOPTION AND ONE TO BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION BY THE GA. THE COMMITTEE DID NOT VOTE ON ANY OF THE RES. IN
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AN UNSUAL PROCEDURE DUE MAINLY TO CHAIRMAN'S (CZECH) LIMITATIONS,

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SEVERAL DELS FELT IT NECESSARY TO EXPRESS HOW THEY WOULD HAVE VOTED HAD A VOTE BEEN TAKEN. THE FOLLOWING RES WERE RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY ECOSOC:

1. TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING--SPONSORED BY INDIA, INDONESIA AND IRAN: THIS RES RECOMMENDED THAT WIDER DISSEMINATION OF EXPERIENCES ALREADY GAINED THROUGH TECH COOPERATION ACTIVITIES OF CENTER BE MAINTAINED AT AN ADEQUATE LEVEL TO CATER TO THE DIRECT NEEDS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. US NOTED THAT IT COULD NOT ACCEPT RES SINCE IT WAS TABLED AT LAST MOMENT WITHOUT TIME FOR CONSULTATION.

2. HBP IN DDII, SPONSORED BY CZECHSLOVAKIA AND THE USSR (10 PERCENT DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL): AUSTRALIA AND THE US NOTED THAT HAD A VOTE BEEN TAKEN THEY WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED.
BRAZIL, FINLAND AND INDONESIA WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED ON PROCEDURAL GROUNDS. THE U.K. STATED THAT THE DEL WOULD HAVE VOTED AGAINST THE RES.

3. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION, (BUILDING MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY) SPONSORED BY COLUMBIA, BRAZIL, GUATEMALA, PANAMA, SPAIN, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO AND TUNISIA. U.S. DID NOTE RES WAS RECEIVED LATE AND DEL HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS.

4. WORK PROGRAM, SPONSORED BY THE USSR (PROGRAM BUDGET CYCLE)--THE US SUPPORTED THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE OF RES.

5. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (ROLE OF CENTER IN VANCOUVER CONFEX)--RES SENT TO SECOND COMMITTEE. US CLARIFIED ROLE OF CONF SYG AND NOTED THAT GA WOULD DISCUSS FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS IN NOVEMBER.BASSIN

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